

FOOD PURCHASE REPORT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

DATE: May 7, 2002

USDA TURKEY AND TURKEY PRODUCTS PURCHASE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced plans to purchase young whole turkeys, turkey roasts, and turkey hams for school lunch and other domestic food nutrition assistance programs. Offers will be invited from the trade for young turkey in one or more of the following forms:

Consumer Pack (233260) - Consumer packaged, frozen young turkeys without necks and giblets, basting optional. Turkeys must weigh not less than 12 pounds (5.44 kg) and not more than 22 pounds (9.98 kg) per carcass weighed without necks and giblets. Turkeys must be packed with not more than four turkeys weighing up to 14 pounds (6.35 kg) per container or not more than two turkeys weighing over 14 pounds (6.35 kg) per container. The difference between individual carcass weights per container must be no more than 2 pounds (0.91 kg). The 2-pound (0.91 kg) increments must be: 12-14, 14-16, 16-18, 18-20, or 20-22 pounds. (Metric equivalency of increments: 5.44-6.35, 6.35-7.26, 7.26-8.16, 8.16-9.07, and 9.07-9.98 kg.) A purchase unit will total 38,000 pounds (17,237 kg). A purchase or delivery unit may consist of shipping containers which cover two consecutive weight ranges only.

Bulk Pack (233390) - Bulk packed for further processing, chilled young turkeys without necks and giblets, nonbasted. Frozen may be specified in the Invitation. The individual turkey weight range must be 18 pounds (8.16 kg) and up per carcass weighed without necks and giblets. The commodity must be packed in commercial containers as required in the Commodity Specification for Turkey and Turkey Products dated May 2002. A purchase unit will total 36,000 pounds (16,329 kg).

Roasts (233648) - Frozen ready-to-cook turkey roasts must weigh not less than 8 pounds (3.63 kg) and not more than 12 pounds (5.44 kg). Roasts must be packaged in elasticized netting and moisture-proof casings or plastic-film bags and packed four roasts per fiberboard shipping container. A purchase unit will total 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Smoked Turkey Ham (234040) - Frozen smoked turkey hams produced from nonbasted, young ready-to-cook turkey thigh meat. Hams must weigh not less than 9 pounds (4.08 kg) and not more than 11 pounds (4.99 kg), be vacuum packaged in shrinkable oxygen- and moisture-proof bags or casings, and be packed four hams per fiberboard shipping container. A purchase unit will total 40,000 pounds (18,144 kg).

Invitation No. 1, inviting offers due by 12 noon, Central Time, Monday, May 20, is being issued this week. Acceptances will be announced by midnight Friday, May 24, for products to be delivered from July 1 to July 15. Subsequent invitations will be issued inviting offers due the first and third Monday of each month.

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As stated in the September 21 Notice to the Trade, all offers must be submitted electronically through the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) website at <https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?>. Offers submitted on and after October 1, 2001, by any means other than DEBES will be considered nonresponsive.

There is an important change to this year's program. Poultry Programs is incorporating "USDA reduced labeling" requirements for shipping containers and providing the option of using commercial labeling for packages and shipping containers. If using commercial labeling, the manufacturer must use a traceability and coding system that traces product back to the specific USDA contract and destination in the event of a recall. As with last year's program, certifications, representations, and warranties (Appendix-1) will be made one time only for all Poultry Program Announcements for the program year. Certifications must be received by the Contracting Officer prior to submitting a bid. Information regarding these requirements is contained in Announcement PY-258, which is being distributed to the trade. Offerors are urged to review the bid format and product specifications and are cautioned to offer only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver during the contracted delivery period.

Although most other provisions of the program are similar to the program operated last year, offerors are urged to carefully read all applicable terms and conditions of USDA-1, as amended; Announcement PY-258; Appendix-1; the Commodity Specifications for Turkey and Turkey Products and Smoked Turkey Ham dated May 2002, which will be distributed to the trade in the near future; and Invitation No. 1.

Consumer pack whole turkeys, turkey roasts, and turkey hams are for preparation and consumption in their present forms by recipients. Bulk pack turkey will be purchased for delivery to a processor and is for conversion to further-processed products in accordance with a contract with recipients.

Inquiries may be made by telephoning (202) 720-7693 or addressing the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/Poultry Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0260, PO Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456. An electronic version of this Food Purchase Report can be obtained through the world wide web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp> .

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